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HULL'S GEOLOGICAL AGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN.[1]—A quarto of 12 pages illustrated by 3 sketch maps and several sectional drawings. The author opposes the doctrine of the permanency of oceans and continents, held by Dana, Le Conte and Dr. Wallace, and cites facts derived from observations in the region of the North Atlantic to uphold Lyell's views of the repeated interchange of oceans and continents. He refers the date of the oceanic condition of the Atlantic area, and of the continental conditions of Eastern America and Western Europe to the close of the Palæozoic epoch.

BOULENGER'S REPTILES AND BATRACHIANS OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.[2]—The position of this group of islands, on the limits of two great zoological districts, renders the study of its fauna of special interest, as it is the point where many of the Papuasian and Polynesian forms intermingle. The author gives a list of all the species hitherto found in the Solomon group, with notes on the general habitats. It includes nineteen reptiles and nine batrachians, some of which are restricted to these islands. The plates are admirable in every respect; the drawing is spirited, most of the batrachians especially so. The most remarkable discovery recorded is that of the genus Ceratobatrachus Boul, a form which represents in the Firmisternial Salientia the Hemiphractus of the Arciferous line. The parallel is shown in the mandibular teeth and the huge dermo-ossification of the head. This discovery nearly completes the parallels between the Arcifera and the Firmisternia.

BENNETT AND MURRAY'S CRYPTOGAMIC BOTANY.[3]—As stated in the Introduction, "No general hand-book of cryptogamic botany has appeared in the English language since the Rev. M. J. Berkley's in 1857." In this period, almost one-third of a century, since the preparation of that famous and

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[1] On the Geological Age of the North Atlantic Ocean. By Edward Hull, LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., Director of the Geol. Sur. of Ireland. Extract from the Scientific Trans. Roy. Dublin Soc., Vol. III., 1885.

[2] On the Reptiles and Batrachians of the Solomon Islands. By G. A. Boulenger, F.Z.S. Extract from Trans. Zool. Soc., Vol. XII., 1886.

[3] *A Handbook of Cryptogamic Botany*. By Alfred W. Bennett, M.A., B.Sc., F.L.S., Lecturer on Botany at St. Thomas' Hospital; and George Murray, F.L.S., Senior Assistant, Department of Botany, British Museum, and Examiner in Botany, Glasgow University. With 378 Illustrations. London: Longmans, Guerny and Co.; and New York: 15 East 16th Street. 1889. All rights reserved. 12mo, pp. viii., 473.